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considerably. In any case it is no slight advantage for the facts to be placed within the reach of all in so convenient a form.

W. TAYLOR SMITH.

Geschichte des Volkes Israel bis zur Restauration unter Esra und Nehemiah. Von AUGUST KLOSTERMANN. München: C. H. Beck'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung. 1896. 8vo, pp. ix+270. \$4.50.

This book, the third notable work on the subject which has appeared in Germany during the last three years, is described in the preface as an attempt to enable students to distinguish for themselves between what can be known, what must be inferred, what may be provisionally assumed, and what is withdrawn from our observation. Its standpoint is clearly indicated in the following sentences: "It was just because the descendants of Jacob in Egypt had inherited from their fathers reminiscences and ideas of a monotheistic religion of Yahveh that Yahveh through Moses constituted them a national church of that religion" (28). "The religion of Israel is not the flower of its national civilization but its root" (52). "If Kadesh was through a long period the recognized seat of the divine oracle for the Israelitish tribes and therefore of the highest court of appeal; if it was in Kadesh that the disorganization of the Sinaitic covenant people and its reorganization were effected, then the primitive view, according to which both the writing down of the law and the liturgical regulations and arrangements referring to the central sanctuary had their beginning during the life in the wilderness, appears to be natural and credible" (66). These opinions distinctly proclaim Dr. Klostermann a disciple of Dillmann rather than of Wellhausen. Nevertheless he is advanced enough on many subordinate points, such as the following: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are for him not merely the names of three individuals but also symbols of three stages in the development of a process of migration and settlement extending over more than two centuries. Those who crossed the Red Sea with Moses need not be thought of as the whole body of Israelites who left Egypt. It may be assumed that many reached Sinai, which had been agreed on as the meeting place in other ways. It is regarded as certain that the spring of that year was a period of unusual electrical phenomena and discharges.

Israelitish history which is preceded by a rapid survey of the

previous history is arranged in four periods: (1) from the sojourn in Egypt to the settlement in Canaan; (2) from that settlement to the death of Solomon; (3) from the accession of Rehoboam to the exile; (4) the restoration.

The book is crowded with useful matter, but is unpleasantly written. Dr. Klostermann's style is neither simple like Kittel's nor brilliant like Wellhausen's. His cumbrous sentences need, in some instances, to be read over twice or even thrice for the meaning to be fully grasped. Those, however, who are not repelled by the uncouthness of the form will find many a choice thought and many a striking suggestion. Now and then we meet with something like a clearly cut aphorism. One of the best, which may appropriately close this notice, occurs in the preface: "The Bible abides: scientific attempts to sketch the history of the Bible come and go." W. TAYLOR SMITH.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Studies of The Man Christ Jesus.* By Robert E. Speer. (New York, Chicago, Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company, pp. 249.) \$0.75.
- Songs of Asia Sung in America; together with other poems: 1880-1895.* By a member of the American Oriental Society. (Philadelphia: Folwell Printing House.) \$0.25.
- Christianity and Infidelity.* The White Hall Discussion. Between Rev. J. J. Porter, A. M., and J. R. Charlesworth. (Bloomington, Ill.: Pantagraph Printing and Stationery Co., 1895, pp. 239.) Paper, \$0.85; cloth, \$1.25.
- The Gospel According to John, from the American Version; Revised New Testament.* Edited by President Roswell D. Hitchcock, with illustrations. (New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert, 1881, pp. 49.)
- The Point of Contact in Teaching.* By Patterson Du Bois. (Philadelphia: John D. Wattles & Co., 1897, pp. 88.) \$0.60.
- Lines for Endeavorers to Learn and to Teach.* Selected and arranged by Emma Halsey Hunting. (New York: Authors' Publishing Association, pp. 83.) \$0.35.
- The Relation of the Sacraments to the Doctrine of the Divine Immanence.* By Rev. William Mitchell. (Ft. Wayne: Aldine Printing House, pp. 65.) \$0.25.
- The Debate between the Church and Science: or the Ancient Hebraic Idea of the Six Days of Creation.* With an Essay on the literary character of Taylor Lewis. By Francis W. Upham, LL.D. (Andover: Warren F. Draper. Boston: Gould and Lincoln. New York: John Wiley. Philadelphia: Smith, English and Co., 1860, pp. 437.)